

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) In a face or nose mask for non-invasive ventilation of patients in general, comprising a mask body provided with an inlet for connection to a ventilation apparatus and perimetrically provided with a sealing element for application to the face of a patient, the improvement in said face or nose mask wherein said sealing element comprises at least one first inflatable chamber and at least one second inflatable chamber, said at least one first inflatable chamber having a first connector connectable to a source of pressurized air, and said at least one second inflatable chamber having a second connector connectable to the source of pressurized air, ~~[[and]]~~ said second inflatable chamber capable of being inflated separately from said first chamber, and said first and second inflatable chambers being alternately inflated and deflated sequentially independently of ventilation provided by the ventilation apparatus.

Claim 2 (Currently amended) The mask according to claim 1, wherein said first and second inflatable chambers have a closed perimeter.

Claim 3 (Currently amended) The mask according to claim 1, wherein said first and second inflatable chambers ~~chamber~~ lie concentrically side by side.

Claims 4-6 (Cancelled)